

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

- 1 1. Apparatus from monitoring and controlling downhole equipment, comprising:
 - 2 (a) a hydraulic line extending into a wellbore for supplying fluid under
 - 3 pressure downhole carried on the tubing;
 - 4 (b) a plurality of fiber optic sensors providing measurements of a downhole
 - 5 parameter along the tubing; and;
 - 6 (c) a hydraulically-controlled device on the tubing and in fluid
 - 7 communication with the hydraulic line, wherein said hydraulic line
 - 8 provides both the monitoring of the downhole parameter and the control of
 - 9 the hydraulically-operated device.

- 1 2. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the fiber optic sensors are disposed inside the
- 2 hydraulic line.

- 1 3. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the hydraulic line is a return line extending from
- 2 a surface location to the hydraulically-operated device.

- 1 4. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the hydraulically-operated device is selected
- 2 from a group consisting of (a) flow control device, (b) a packer, (c) a choke, (d) a
- 3 perforating device, (e) an anchor, (f) a completion device, and (g) a production
- 4 device.

1 5. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the downhole parameter is one of (a)
2 temperature, (b) pressure, (c) vibration, (d) acoustic measurement, (e) fluid flow,
3 and (f) a fluid property.

1 6. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the plurality of sensors include at least one of
2 (a) temperature sensor, (b) pressure sensor, (c) acoustic sensor, (d) flow
3 measurement sensor, and (f) vibration sensor.

1 7. A method of monitoring a downhole parameter and controlling a hydraulically-
2 operated device, comprising:
3 (a) providing a hydraulically-operated device in a wellbore;
4 (b) conveying a hydraulic line in downhole, said hydraulic supplying fluid
5 under pressure to the hydraulically -operated device for controlling the
6 operation of the hydraulically-operated device.
7 (c) providing a fiber optic sensor in the hydraulic line for measuring a
8 downhole parameter along the hydraulic line so that the same hydraulic
9 line provides measurement for the downhole parameter and the control of
10 the hydraulically-operated device.

1 8. A method of controlling production from a wellbore, comprising:
2 (a) providing a producing string carrying an electrical submersible pump for
3 pumping wellbore fluid to the surface, said string carrying a high voltage

4 line from a surface location to the pump or providing electrical power to
5 the pump; and
6 (b) providing an optical fiber carrying at least one fiber optic sensor along the
7 high voltage line for taking measurements of a wellbore parameter.

1 9. The method of claim 8 wherein at least one fiber optic sensor is placed below the
2 pump.

1 10. The method of claim 9, wherein the sensor below the pump is selected from a
2 group consisting of a (a) pressure sensor, (b) temperature sensor, (c) vibration
3 sensors, and (d) flow measurement sensor.

1 11. The method of claim 8 further comprising controlling the operation of the
2 electrical submersible pump in response to the downhole parameter.

1 12. The method of claim 11 wherein the downhole parameter is one of (a) temperature
2 of the pump, (b) vibration of the pump, and (c) fluid flow by the pump.

1 13. An apparatus for monitoring the condition of an electric power line supplying
2 high electric power into a wellbore, comprising:
3 (a) a conduit extending into the wellbore;
4 (b) an electric powerline in the conduit carrying high electric power to a

5 location in the wellbore; and,

6 (c) a plurality of fiber optic sensors distributed along and adjacent the electric
7 powerline, said fiber optic sensors providing measurements representing a
8 physical condition of the electric powerline.

1 14. A system for controlling a downhole device in a wellbore comprising:

2 (a) a fiber optic sensor in the wellbore providing measurements for a
3 downhole parameter;

4 (b) a source of power for supplying power to operate the downhole device;
5 and,

6 (c) a controller providing signals responsive to the fiber optic sensor
7 measurements.

1 15. The system of claim 14 wherein the source of power is one of (a) operating the
2 downhole device, (b) light energy and (c) hydraulic power.

1 16. A downhole injection evaluation system comprising:

2 a) at least one downhole sensor permanently disposed in an injection well for
3 sensing at least one parameter associated with injecting a fluid into a
4 formation.

1 17. A downhole injection evaluation system as claimed in claim 16 wherein said

2 system further includes an electronic controller operably connected to said at least
3 one downhole sensor.

1 18. A downhole injection evaluation system as claimed in claim 17 wherein said at
2 least one downhole sensor is operably connected to at least one production well
3 sensor to provide said electronic controller, operably connected to said at least one
4 downhole sensor and to said at least one production well sensor, with information
5 from both sides of a fluid front moving between said injection well and said
6 production well.

1 19. A system for optimizing hydrocarbon production comprising:
2 a) a production well;
3 b) an injection well, said production well and said injection well being data
4 transmittably connected;
5 c) at least one sensor located in either of said injection well and said
6 production well, said at least one sensor being capable of sensing at least
7 one parameter associated with an injection operation, said sensor being
8 operably connected to a controller for controlling injection in the injection
9 well.

1 20. An automatic injection/production system comprising:
2 a) an injection well having at least one sensor and at least one flow

3 controller;
4 b) a production well having at least one sensor and at least one flow
5 controller;
6 c) at least one system controller operably connected to said sensors and said
7 fluid controllers whereby said system controllers controls said flow
8 controllers according to information received by said sensors.

1 21. A downhole injection evaluation system as claimed in claim 17 wherein said
2 system further includes at least one downhole acoustic signal generator whereby
3 signals generated by said at least one signal generator reflect off a flood
4 fluid/hydrocarbon interface and are received by said at least one downhole sensor.

1 22. An injection well having at least one fiber optic cable disposed therein in a
2 location advantageous to irradiate a portion of the strata of the formation
3 immediately surrounding the well to measure fluorescence of bacteria present.

1 23. A method for avoiding injection induced unintentional fracture growth
2 comprising:
3 a) providing at least one acoustic sensor in an injection well;
4 b) monitoring said at least one sensor;
5 c) varying pressure of a fluid being injected to avoid a predetermined
6 threshold level of acoustic activity received by said at least one sensor.

1 24. A method for enhancing hydrocarbon production wherein at least one injection
2 well and an associated production well include at least one sensor and at least one
3 flow controller comprising:

4 a) providing a system capable of monitoring said at least one sensor in each
5 of said wells and controlling said at least one flow controller in each of
6 said wells in response thereto to optimize hydrocarbon production.

1 25. An apparatus for controlling chemical injection of a surface treatment system for
2 an oilfield well, comprising:

3 (a) a chemical injecting device injecting one or more chemicals into the
4 treatment system for the treatment of fluids produced from an oilfield
5 well;

6 (b) at least one chemical sensor associated with the treatment system for
7 sensing at least one parameter of the injected chemical or for sensing at
8 least one chemical property of the fluids produced from the oilfield well;
9 and

10 (c) a control and monitoring system for controlling the chemical injection
11 device in response, at least in part, to information from said downhole
12 chemical sensor.

1 26. The apparatus of claim 25 further comprising at least one additional sensor

2 distributed in said treatment system for measuring at least one of pressure,
3 temperature and flow, said distributed sensors communicating with said control
4 system.

1 27. The apparatus of claim 26 wherein said distributed sensor comprises at least one
2 fiber optic sensor.

1 28. The apparatus of claim 25 wherein said control system includes a computerized
2 controller.

1 29. The apparatus of claim 25 wherein said chemical sensor is a fiber optic sensor.

1 30. The apparatus of claim 29 wherein said fiber optic downhole chemical sensor
2 includes a probe which is sensitive to at least one selected chemically related
3 parameter.

1 31. The apparatus of claim 30 wherein said probe includes a sol gel sensor.

1 32. The apparatus of claim 6 wherein said fiber optic downhole sensor includes a
2 spectrometer in communication with said probe.

1 33. A method of monitoring chemical injection into a surface treatment system of an

- 2 oilfield well, comprising:
- 3 (a) injecting one or more chemicals into the treatment system for the
- 4 treatment of fluids produced in the oilfield well;
- 5 (b) sensing at least one chemical property of the fluids in the treatment system
- 6 (c) using at least one chemical sensor associated with the treatment system.

1 34. The method of claim 33 wherein said chemical sensor is a fiber optic sensor.

1 35. The method of claim 34 wherein said fiber optic chemical sensor includes a probe

2 which is sensitive to at least one selected chemically related parameter.

1 36. The method of claim 35 wherein said probe includes a sol gel sensor.

1 37. A light actuated system for use in a wellbore, comprising:

2 (a) a light actuated transducer in the wellbore, said light actuated transducer

3 adapted to transform a physical state of a component thereof upon

4 application of optical energy;

5 (b) an optical waveguide conveying the optical energy from a source thereof

6 to the light actuated transducer; and

7 (c) a control device in the wellbore operated at least in part by the said change

8 in the physical state of the component of the light actuated transducer.

1 38. The light actuated system of claim 37, wherein said transformation of the
2 physical state is selected from the set consisting of (i) mechanical motion of the
3 component, and (ii) a change in the physical properties of the component.

1 39. The light actuated system of claim 37 wherein the optical waveguide is one of (i)
2 an optical fiber, and (ii) a fluid-filled waveguide.

1 40. The light actuated system of claim 37 wherein the control device is one of (i) a
2 fluid control device, (ii) an electronic power generation device, (iii) an electrical
3 switching device, (iv) a fluid pressuring device, (v) a downhole light source, and
4 (vi) an energy sensitive material that changes physical properties.

1 41. The light actuated system of claim 40 further comprising an end use device
2 controlled at least in part by the control device, said end use device being one of
3 (i) flow control equipment, (ii) lifting equipment, (iii) injection equipment, (iv)
4 perforating equipment, (v) packer, (vi) fluid separating equipment, (vii) sensing
5 equipment, (viii) pump, and (ix) fluid treatment equipment.

1 42. The light actuated system of claim 37 wherein transformation of the physical state
2 includes the movement of a fluid and the source of the fluid is one of (i) a
3 pressurized fluid supplied from a surface location, (ii) pressurized fluid supplied
4 from the surface via a conduit carrying the optical waveguide to the light actuated

5 system, and (iii) wellbore fluid at hydrostatic pressure.

1 43. The light actuated system of claim 42 wherein the fluid is enclosed in a chamber
2 having a reciprocating piston therein, said piston reciprocating due to the
3 expansion of the fluid upon application of optical energy.

1 44. The light actuated system of claim 40 wherein the transformation of the physical
2 state includes the conversion of the optical energy to motion of a piezoelectric
3 material carrying the electrical energy.

1 45. The light actuated system of claim 37 further comprising at least one sensor in the
2 wellbore providing measurements of at least one selected downhole parameter.

1 46. The light actuated system of claim 37 wherein the downhole parameter is one of
2 (a) temperature, (b) pressure, (c) vibration, (d) acoustic field, and (e) corrosion.

1 47. The light actuated system of claim 37 further comprising a plurality of fiber optic
2 sensors for making distributed measurements.

1 48. The light actuated system of claim 37 further comprising a processor adapted to
2 provides signals responsive to downhole parameters for controlling a downhole
3 device.

1 49. A method for producing formation fluids through a wellbore, comprising:
2 (a) providing a light actuated transducer in the wellbore, said light actuated
3 transducer adapted to transform a physical state of a component thereof
4 upon application of optical energy;
5 (b) providing a control device in the wellbore that is operated at least in part
6 by said change in the physical state of the component of the light actuated
7 transducer ; and
8 (c) supplying optical energy to the light actuated transducer, causing said light
9 actuated transducer to change the physical state of the component thereof,
10 thereby operating the control device.

1 50. The method of claim 49 further comprising providing a conduit from the surface
2 to the light actuated transducer and the control device, said conduit carrying an
3 optical waveguide for supplying the optical energy to the light actuated transducer
4 and providing a path for supplying fluid under pressure to a device in the
5 wellbore.

1 51. The light actuated system of claim 45 wherein the at least one sensor comprises a
2 plurality of spaced apart sensors.

1 52. A method of generating electric power in a wellbore, comprising:
2 (a) placing a light cell at a desired depth in the wellbore, said light cell
3 generating electric energy upon receiving light energy; and
4 (b) supplying light energy from a source thereof to the light cell for generating
5 the electrical energy downhole.

1 53. The method of claim 52 further comprising charging and electric energy storage
2 device in the wellbore with the electrical energy produced by the light cell.

1 54. The method of claim 53 further comprising providing an electrically-operated
2 device in the wellbore and operating said device utilizing the electrical energy
3 from the storage device.

1 55. The method of claim 54 wherein the electrically-operated device is selected from
2 the group consisting of a (a) sliding sleeve, (b) choke, and (c) a flow control
3 device.

1 56. The method of claim 52 further providing light energy to the light cell via optical
2 fiber conveyed from the surface.

1 57. The method of claim 7 wherein the hydraulically-operated device is selected from
2 a group consisting of (a) flow control device, (b) a packer, (c) a choke, (d) a

3 perforating device, (e) an anchor, (f) a completion device, and (g) a production
4 device.

1 58. The method of claim 7 wherein the downhole parameter is one of (a) temperature,
2 (b) pressure, (c) vibration, (d) acoustic measurement, (e) fluid flow, and (f) a fluid
3 property.

1 59. The method of claim 7 wherein the fiber optic sensor is selected from the set
2 consisting of (a) temperature sensor, (b) pressure sensor, (c) acoustic sensor, (d)
3 flow measurement sensor, and (f) vibration sensor.